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SOURCE

Turkmenskaya Iskra.

## TURKMEN PETROLEUM OUTPUT INCREASES; OIL-WELL SINKING FAILS TO MEET PLAN

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.

The petroleum industry is a leading branch of the industry of the Turkmon SSR. The Turkmenneft' Association fulfilled the 1950 plan for petroleum extraction 100.8 percent. The first-quarter 1951 plan was reported by one source as fulfilled 101.6 percent (1) and by another source 102 percent. This latter figure was said to represent 115 percent of the achievement of the first quarter 1950.(2)

The Turkmen oil fields have outstandingly modern equipment. Mechanized deep-well pump and compressor extraction is being developed and the technology of exploiting wells is being improved.

The volume of drilling operations is almost 13 times that of 1940 and, along with the increase in drilling, the average depth of wells has increased considerably. However, the Turkmenneft' Association as a whole is regularly failing to fulfill the plan for drilling. In 1950, the plan was completed only 80.6 percent, including 82.5 percent for exploitational drilling and 77.5 percent for exploratory drilling. Since the 1951 first-quarter plan was fulfilled only 92.2 percent, the lag has not yet been overcome. Exploratory drilling lags in particular.

Oil fields No 1 and No 2 failed to complete the 1950 state plan, and the Chelekennefteozokerit Trust did no fulfill the 1951 first-quarter plan for petroleum extraction and ozokerite mining.(1)

The Turkmen petroleum industry pledges during 1951 to:

1. Complete the 1951 plan for petroleum extraction and oil-well sinking, delivering 25 trainloads of above-plan petroleum and sinking 5,000 above-plan meters of oil wells.

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- 2. Increase labor productivity 2 percent for petroleum extraction and one percent for drilling.
- 3. Lower production costs 3 percent for petroleum extraction, deliver 3 million above-plan rubles from basic activities and save 4 million rubles from the extensive introduction of suggestions of rationalizers and inventors.
  - 4. Prepare and increase the qualifications of 2,310 personnel.

The petroleum refinery pledges to:

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- 1. Complete the year plan ahead of schedule and deliver several thousand tons of above-plan light-colored petroleum products.
- 2. Increase labor productivity 2 percent above the established norm. Lower production costs of products and delivered above-plan profits amounting to one million rubles. Save 1.5 percent of fuel and 100,000 kilowatt-hours of electric power.(2)

## SOURCES

- 1. Ashkhabad, Turkmenskaya Iskra, 27 Apr 51
- 2. Ibid., 6 May 51

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